

REMARKS

In the outstanding Official Action, claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 12-14, 16-18 and 20 (including all of the independent claims) were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Chai, with dependent claims 3, 7, 11, 15 and 19 being rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chai in view of Zinszer, all for the reasons of record.

In response, independent claims 1, 5, 9, 13 and 17 are herewith amended in order to more particularly and precisely recite the instant invention in a manner which clearly distinguishes over the cited and applied reference, and it is respectfully submitted that these independent claims, and the remaining claims depending therefrom, are clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied reference(s) for the reasons detailed below.

As shown in Fig. 2 of the instant application, and as clearly described in the associated description, the instant invention as presently claimed is directed to a transmission system or method, or a component thereof, in which a single input signal on a single input line (18) is split into first and second encoded frequency band signals. The Chai reference, on the contrary, is directed to a completely different form of apparatus operating on two completely different input signals (namely a video signal and an audio signal) for a substantially different purpose. More particularly, Chai expressly teaches, with respect to Fig. 2, that

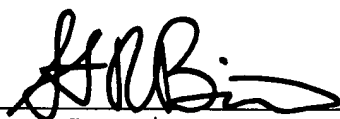
video data is provided on a first input line 210 and audio data is provided on a second separate input line 212. It is respectfully submitted that all of the currently-pending claims, as herein amended (as in claim 1, for example, wherein a single input signal on a single input line is expressly recited) are clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied reference.

In the interest of advancing prosecution, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims, as presently amended, are not only not anticipated by Chai, but that the Chai reference would not be properly combinable with another reference to overcome the noted deficiency because the system of Chai is clearly one which operates on two different input signals on two different lines (namely video signals and audio signals) for certain specific purposes which are substantially different from the purposes of the present invention, and that it would not occur to one ordinary skill in the art to combine such a reference with other art directed to a system which operates on only a single input line containing a single input signal, used for substantially different purposes.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the independent claims, as herein amended, and the remaining claims depending therefrom, are clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied references.

Accordingly, allowance of the currently-pending claims is respectfully submitted to be justified at the present time, and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

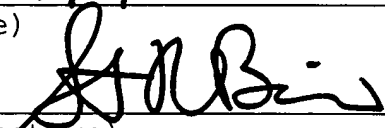
Respectfully submitted,

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